OROVILLE FACILITIES RELICENSING

Operations Modeling — Sensitivity Analysis Series

Sensitivity Analysis allows a special interest to explore ranges of potential system responses to controlled changes in operating conditions derived from the Benchmark Studies or a separate source of information

Scenario Number: 17

Scenario Objective:

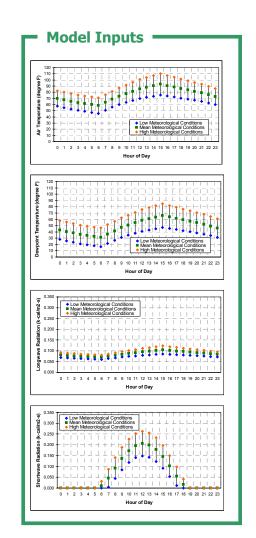
Investigate the downstream limits of temperature control in the high-flow section of Feather River from Thermalito Afterbay outlet to confluence with the Sacramento River by operation of the Oroville Facilities in July through September.

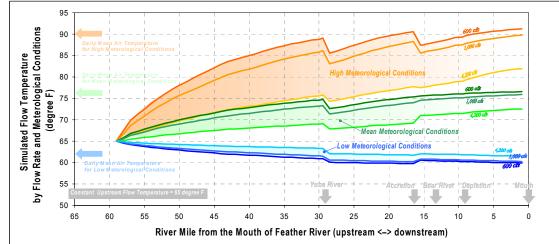
Model Use:

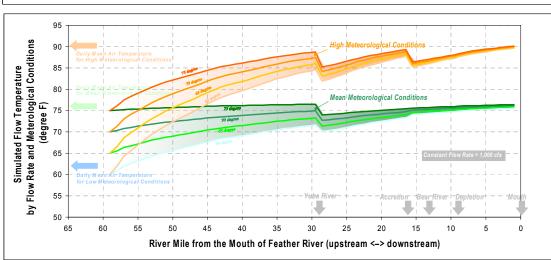
- WQRRS
- Model was modified to include the highflow section of the Feather River only

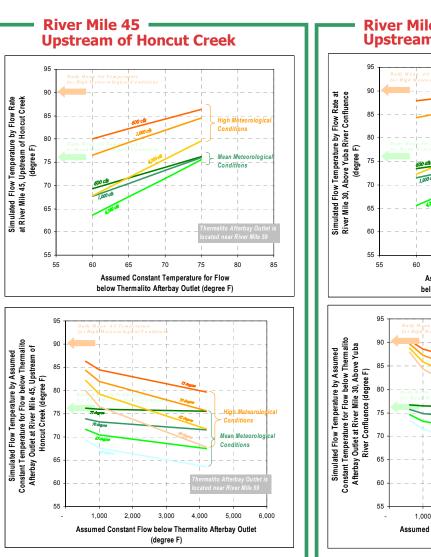
Approach

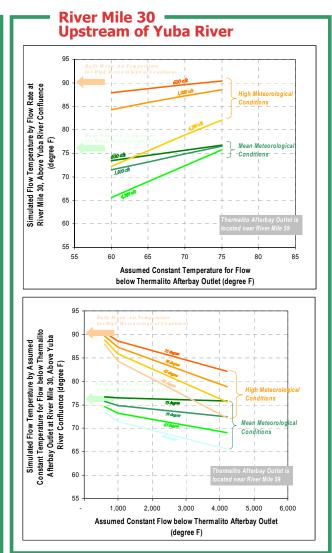
- The diurnal variations of shortwave radiation, longwave radiation and dew point temperatures were developed based on July through September of 14-year records.
- High, and low meteorological conditions represent the upper and lower bounds of a range with about 95 percent of occurrence.
- Headwater flows and temperatures were selected to bracket typical historical conditions.
- Tributary flows were derived from historic data. Their temperatures are based on correlations with assumed ambient air temperatures.











^{**}Operations of Oroville Facilities to facilitate assumed flow and temperature were not evaluated.**

Findings:

- Among the factors evaluated in this scenario, meteorological conditions have the largest influence on effects of temperature control provided by the Oroville Facilities.
- High flow conditions are helpful in maintaining river temperature; however, 4,200-cfs releases in summer and fall may not be sustainable.